

Agenda Date: 8/6/2003

Agenda Item: IIIB

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Board of Public Utilities

Two Gateway Center Newark, NJ 07102 www.bpu.state.nj.us

		CABLE TELEVISION
IN THE MATTER OF TW FANCH-One, d/b/a TIME WARNER CABLE REQUEST FOR WAIVER, <u>NUNC PRO TUNC</u> , OF NOTICE FOR ALTERATION IN CHANNEL ALLOCATION))))	DOCKET NO. CO03060443

(SEE ATTACHED SERVICE LIST)

BY THE BOARD:1

On June 10, 2003 TW Fanch-One Co., d/b/a Time Warner Cable (Petitioner or Time Warner), filed a letter, in lieu of Petition, with the Board, requesting a waiver of the time requirements for providing notice of alterations of channel allocations under <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 14:18-3.17, stemming from the deletion of two digital pay-per-view channels.

The programming change requiring channel allocation alterations resulted when program supplier, In-Demand, notified Time Warner that the pay-per-view programming currently provided on channels 331 and 332 would no longer be available as of July 1, 2003. Notice of the deletion of the aforementioned channels did not reach Time Warner until May 30, 2003, thereby making impossible compliance with the requirement to provide subscribers, municipalities and the Office of Cable Television at least thirty (30) days notice prior to the July 1, 2003 effective date.

N.J.A.C. 14:18-3.17(a) states that each cable television company shall notify the Office of Cable Television, and N.J.A.C. 14:18-3.17(b) states that each cable company shall notify its subscribers and municipalities of any deletions in channel allocation at least thirty (30) days prior to the effective date of the deletion. N.J.A.C. 14:18-3.17(c)(3) allows for relaxation of the thirty (30) day notice requirement when the programming service has been discontinued or withdrawn by the provider in such a manner as to leave the cable television operator without sufficient time to comply. In order to satisfy this requirement, however, the cable television operator must "provide the required notice at the earliest possible date."

Based upon this regulation, Petitioner seeks a waiver, nunc pro tunc, of the thirty (30) day notice requirements of N.J.A.C. 14:18-3.17 because Petitioner was unable to provide sufficient notice to the Office of Cable Television and the municipalities prior to the deletion taking effect.

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¹ Commissioner Jack Alter did not participate or vote in this matter.

According to Time Warner, subscribers were notified of the change via on-screen messages beginning on May 30, 2003, and bill messages, which began, with the June 1, 2003 bills. Municipal officials were notified of the change by letter sent on June 2, 2003. The Board was likewise notified on Monday, June 2, 2003 by fax and on Tuesday, June 3 by letter.

Having reviewed this matter, the Board <u>HEREBY FINDS</u> that the Petitioner provided the required notice at the earliest possible date and that the programming service has been discontinued by a third party provider in such a manner as to leave the Petitioner without sufficient time to comply. Therefore, the Board <u>HEREBY APPROVES</u>, <u>nunc pro tunc</u>, Petitioner's request for a waiver of the notification requirements as hereinabove described.

DATED:	August 7, 2003	BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES BY:
		(signed) JEANNE M. FOX PRESIDENT
(sig	ned)	(signed)
FREDERIC COMMISS	CK F. BUTLER IONER	CAROL J. MURPHY COMMISSIONER
(sig	ned)	
CONNIE O COMMISS		
ATTEST:		
(signed)		
KRISTI IZZ SECRETA		

I/M/O TW FANCH-ONE CO., D/B/A TIME WARNER CABLE REQUEST FOR WAIVER NUNC PRO TUNC, OF NOTICE FOR ALTERATION OF CHANNEL ALLOCATION

DOCKET NO. CO3060443

Dennis C. Linken, Esq.

Stryker, Tams & Dill, LLP Two Penn Plaza East Newark, NJ 07102

Celeste M. Fasone, Director

Office of Cable Television Board of Public Utilities Two Gateway Center Newark, NJ 07102

Charles A. Russell, Esq., Deputy Director

Office of Cable Television Board of Public Utilities Two Gateway Center Newark, NJ 07102

Kenneth Sheehan, Esq.

Deputy Attorney General State of New Jersey Division of Law 124 Halsey Street Newark, NJ 07102

Nueva D. Elma, Chief

Bureau of Accounts Office of Cable Television Board of Public Utilities Two Gateway Center Newark, NJ 07102

William H. Furlong, Chief

Bureau of Inspection & Enforcement Office of Cable Television Board of Public Utilities Two Gateway Center Newark, NJ 07102

Seema M. Singh, Esq.

Acting Director and Rate Payer Advocate Division of Rate Payer Advocate 31 Clinton Street Newark, NJ 07102